



ATTACHMENT A

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Remarks

By this Amendment, independent claim 26 has been made allowable and dependent claim 42 corrected for proper antecedent basis in view of a previous correction to claim 1. In addition, independent claim 13 has been revised, dependent claim 27 has been canceled, and other dependent claims have also been amended to change their dependencies. It is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

In the *Claim Objections* section of the outstanding Office Action, dependent claim 42 together with claim 43 dependent therefrom were rejected for a lack of antecedent basis for the term "the sheath". By this Amendment, the noted element has now been referenced as "the first sheath". This change is consistent with the previous change to independent claim 1 from which this claim depended, where this "sheath" was subsequently referred to as a "first" sheath (as a second sheath was subsequently added to the claim). In view of this change, the objection to both claims 42 and 43 has been overcome.

In the *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102* section, independent claim 26 was rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by the Ellis patent. However, as noted in the previous *Allowable Subject Matter* section, dependent claim 27 (and others) contained allowable subject matter. Therefore, by this Amendment, the subject matter of dependent claim 27 has been incorporated into independent claim 26 to make claim 26 (and the remaining claims dependent therefrom) allowable. It will be noted that the

claims which formerly depended from now canceled claim 27 now depend from independent claim 26. It will also be noted that the phrase "means to activate" in claim 26 has been corrected to "means for activation" in order to be consistent with the terminology used in the following dependent claims.

In reviewing allowed independent claim 13, it was noted that the term "hinged" might be considered too restrictive, as anything which was movably connected in a broad sense about an axis as depicted and described in figures 2l-2m would be satisfactory. Therefore, the term "hinged" has been changed to "movably connected" to make sure the broader interpretation of the invention would be understood in the claim. It is submitted that claim 13 remains allowable for the same reasons with this terminology as with the "hinged" terminology, since in the sense of the present invention both are equivalent and not shown in the art. However, if the examiner does not concur with this change, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that some other suitable terminology can be agreed to.

It will also be noted that the (direct or indirect) dependencies of allowed claims 4-11, 14-25, 34-40, and 47-49 have been changed from allowed independent claim 1 to allowed independent claim 13 in order to better claim the invention.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the present application is in condition of immediate allowance and such action is solicited.